

Gulliver in the Bush—A Review

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Gulliver in the Bush. Wanderings of an Australian entomologist, by H. J. Carter. Angus & Robertson, Sydney, 234 pages, 9 plates, 1933.

Entomology has of recent years gradually risen in the public esteem from being considered an amusing and freakish hobby to being admitted into the category of useful sciences. In America, and especially here in Hawaii, this has largely come about through the activities of professional entomologists, connected with scientific institutions. In the British Empire, although considerable research has been done by professional entomologists, perhaps even more has been done by amateur collectors and students of insect life.

One of the outstanding amateur entomologists in Australia is H. J. Carter. A schoolmaster by profession, he has devoted his spare time for more than a third of a century to the collecting and study of Australian insects, especially beetles. He has become an authority on the beetles of Australia. In addition, he is an all-around naturalist and lover of the out-of-doors.

Mr. Carter has produced a little book of reminiscences of his collecting experiences in many parts of Australia. Its chapters are packed with interesting information about the Australian countryside: its geology, trees, plants, and insect life. His style is delightfully informal and, in places, droll. In relating his experiences he gives the reader little intimate pictures of other distinguished Australian entomologists.

The title, "Gulliver in the Bush," is somewhat misleading. There is no Lilliputian pretense. Rather, a straightforward, intimate description of Australian out-of-doors for the lover of nature. The beetle enthusiast will find scientific names and bibliographic references, unobtrusively inserted. The travel-minded will find de-

lightful descriptions of regions and places of interest. To those who have visited Australia the little book will bring back happy memories of places and persons.

There are twenty illustrations, showing scenes, insects, and entomologists, all excellently reproduced from photographs, in nine plates. The price (six shillings) is very reasonable for a book of such quality.